

Did you know?

Beef cattle consume, on average, 0.75 to 1.5 gallons of water per 100 lbs. of body weight, or 6-12%. A lactating cow consumes 18% of its body weight.

Therefore, a typical 1,200 lbs.-lactating cow consumes 216 lbs. or 25.9 gallons of water per day. As temperature increases, so does water consumption.

<http://www.cattlenetwork.com/cattle-news/Water-requirements-for-beef-cattle-on-pasture-125762803.html>



Having more organic matter in your soil, obtainable through no-till practices, helps hold onto rainwater for plant use and reduces the amount of topsoil and nutrients that wash away.

Protecting Resources Financial and Environmental

What soils do you have?
What nutrients are present?
How much organic matter is present?

Did you know: You can use foliar testing to help determine crop needs

Division of Compliance Assistance

envhelp@ky.gov

DCA.ky.gov

502-564-0323



Green Resource List

Agriculture Water Quality Plan and Nutrient Management Plan

jokko.bae.uky.edu/awqpt/default.htm

Dead Animal Composting

www.2.ca.ukyedu/agc/pubs/id/id166/id166.pdf

Importance of Soil Health

www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/

FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1049061.pdf

Vegetable Composting

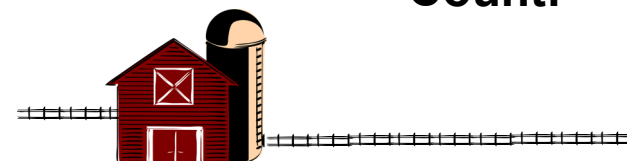
<http://howtocompost.org>



KY EXCEL Farm is open to all individuals and entities that own land and farm crops or livestock, or is an advocacy group for farmers/agriculture.

KY EXCEL Farm membership is good for one year and may be renewed. A member needs to submit at least one voluntary environmental project, which may include activities such as increasing efficiency, resource conservation or a best management practice taking place on the farm.

Every Farm & Every Decision Count!



Project Ideas for Your KY EXCEL Farm Membership

On-Farm Projects

- Fencing cattle from creeks and ponds
- Precision agriculture
- Create riparian areas
- No-till agriculture
- Rotational grazing



- Heavy use pads
- Storm water diversion
- Pest management
- Have your soil tested and only apply the amount of fertilizer needed for crop growth.
- Sinkhole protection
- On farm composting
- Develop a Nutrient Management Plan.
- Develop a Conservation Plan.
- Make sure your employees are aware of your environmental commitments.
- Plant trees to improve animal health in the summer.

Air Quality

- Know what and when you can/cannot burn.
- Properly maintain vehicles to ensure greatest fuel efficiency.



Water Conservation

- Install water for livestock or develop a spring or alternate water source
- Capture rainwater for use on the farm
- Update your Agriculture Water Plan
- Complete your Groundwater Protection Plan if you have a septic system or fuel storage tank
- Fix any leaky faucets or toilets
- Water plants early in the morning to decrease evaporation
- Use a soaker hose in the garden
- Use native or drought-resistant plants to cut down on watering
- Use mulch around plants to retain moisture
- Install water aerators on sink faucets and water spigots to decrease water consumption



Waste Management

- Recycle old tires
- Recycle waste oil. Don't pour it on the ground.
- Buy in bulk when possible and look for recycled packaging
- Recycle plastic jugs, including fertilizer and pesticide jugs



Energy Projects

- Alternative energy (solar, wind, biogas)
- Have an energy audit performed
- Use motion sensors and dimming devices
- Install programmable thermostats
- In exit signs, use LED bulbs
- Shut down electronics when not in use and use power strips
- Insulate your hot water heater to decrease its workload

Other Green Suggestions

- Provide educational opportunities.
- Purchase products with third-party certification or labels you trust
- Use cleaning products that are safer for the environment
- Look for paper products with recycled content

